

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a system of operating a wireless handset capable of making clear calls, ~~secure-only~~, and ~~auto~~ secure calls, a method ~~of making a call~~, the method comprising:

pressing a key for a predetermined amount of time;

determining whether the handset is in a traditional mode, in an autosecure mode, or in a secure-only mode;

if the handset is currently in either the secure-only or the autosecure mode, originating entering a secure call mode if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time, and originating a clear call if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time ~~unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto-secure mode;~~

if the handset is currently in the traditional mode, originating staying in a clear mode call if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time, and originating a secure call if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time ~~unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto-secure mode.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising: entering a personal identification number (PIN) to register as a secure user to allow a secure call.

3. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the predetermined amount of time is about two seconds.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the key is a send/talk key.

5. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the step of entering a PIN number is entered each time the handset is activated.

6. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising disabling the handset if the PIN number is incorrectly entered more than a predetermined number of times.

7. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 6, wherein the predetermined number of times is 7.

8. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 6, wherein the predetermined number of times is 3.

9-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) In a wireless handset capable of ~~operating in~~ clear calls and secure ~~calls modes~~, a method of transitioning from a secure call mode to a clear call mode, the method comprising:

sending at least one transition message based on a request from a user wishing to transition from a secure call mode to a clear call mode ~~during a call~~;

~~confirming transition to the clear mode as received in response to the received message;~~
and

receiving at least one confirmation message, responsive to the transition message,
authorizing transition from the secure call to a clear call request; and
smoothly transitioning to a clear call in response to the received confirmation message.

12. (Currently Amended) A wireless apparatus configurable to make clear calls, ~~secure only~~, and ~~auto~~ secure calls, the apparatus comprising:

a user-interface key capable of being depressed; and

a circuit configured to measure the amount of time the user interface key is depressed, wherein the apparatus is configured to determine whether the wireless apparatus is in a

traditional mode, in an autosecure mode, or in a secure-only mode, and if the handset is in either the secure-only or the autosecure mode, the wireless apparatus is configured to originate ~~operate~~ in a secure call mode if the user-interface key is depressed for greater than a predetermined amount of time, and to originate a clear call if the user-interface key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto-secure mode, and if the handset is in the traditional mode, wherein the apparatus is configured to originate ~~operate~~ in a clear call mode if the user-interface key is depressed for greater than a predetermined amount of time, and to originate a secure call if the user-interface key is depressed for less than a predetermined amount of time unless the handset is currently in either secure-only or auto-secure mode.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The wireless handset method as set forth in Claim 27 [1], further comprising:

means for entering a personal identification number (PIN) to register as a secure user to allow a secure call.

15. (Currently Amended) The wireless handset method as set forth in Claim 27 [1], wherein the predetermined amount of time is about two seconds.

16. (Currently Amended) The wireless handset method as set forth in Claim 27 [1], wherein the key is the send/talk key.

17. (Currently Amended) The wireless handset method as set forth in Claim 16, wherein the ~~step of entering a~~ PIN number is entered each time the handset is activated.

18. (Currently Amended) The wireless handset method as set forth in Claim 16, further comprising means for disabling the handset if the PIN number is incorrectly entered more than a predetermined number of times.

19-26 (Cancelled)

27. (New) A wireless handset capable of clear calls and-secure calls, comprising:

means for pressing a key for a predetermined amount of time;

means for determining whether the handset is in a traditional mode, in an autosecure mode, or in a secure-only mode;

means for originating, if the handset is currently in either the secure-only or the autosecure mode, a secure call if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time and a clear call if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time, and

means for originating, if the handset is currently in the traditional mode, a clear call if the key is held for a time period greater than the predetermined amount of time and a secure call if the key is held for a time period less than the predetermined amount of time.